



WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for cleaving glycation endproducts or cross-linked proteins in an organism, wherein said method comprises administering an effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound to said organism wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneaminophenoxyisobutyric acid];

4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid;

L-bis-[4-(4-chlorobenzamidophenoxyisobutyryl)cystine];

4-(3,5-dichlorophenylureido)phenoxyisobutyryl-1-amidocyclohexane-1-carboxylic acid; methylene bis [4,4'-(2-chlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyric acid)];

1,1-dimethylbiguanide; and

5-aminosalicylic acid.

- 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said compound is 1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneamino-phenoxyisobutyric acid].
- 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said compound is 4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid.
- 4. A method of reversing deleterious effects of aging in an organism wherein said effects are formation of glycation endproducts or protein cross-linking, wherein said method comprises administering an effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound to said organism wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneaminophenoxyisobutyric acid];

4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid;

L-bis-[4-(4-chlorobenzamidophenoxyisobutyryl)cystine];

4-(3,5-dichlorophenylureido)phenoxyisobutyryl-1-amidocyclohexane-1-carboxylic acid; methylene bis [4,4'-(2-chlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyric acid)];

1,1-dimethylbiguanide; and

5-aminosalicylic acid.

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- 5. The method of claim 4 wherein said compound is 1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneamino-phenoxyisobutyric acid].
- 6. The method of claim 4 wherein said compound is 4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid.
- 7. A method of reversing complications resulting from diabetes wherein said complications result from formation of glycation endproducts or protein cross-linking, wherein said method comprises administering an effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound to said organism wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneaminophenoxyisobutyric acid];

4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid;

L-bis-[4-(4-chlorobenzamidophenoxyisobutyryl)cystine];

4-(3,5-dichlorophenylureido)phenoxyisobutyryl-1-amidocyclohexane-1-carboxylic acid; methylene bis [4,4'-(2-chlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyric acid)];

1,1-dimethylbiguanide; and

5-aminosalicylic acid.

- 8. The method of claim 7 wherein said compound is 1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneamino-phenoxyisobutyric acid].
- 9. The method of claim 7 wherein said compound is 4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid.
 - A method of reversing progress in a patient of rheumatoid arthritis, Alzheimer's disease, uremia, neurotoxicity, or atherosclerosis, wherein said method comprises administering an effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound to said organism wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:
 - 1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneaminophenoxyisobutyric acid];

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4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid;

L-bis-[4-(4-chlorobenzamidophenoxyisobutyryl)cystine];

4-(3,5-dichlorophenylureido)phenoxyisobutyryl-1-amidocyclohexane-1-carboxylic acid; methylene bis [4,4'-(2-chlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyric acid)];

1,1-dimethylbiguanide; and

5-aminosalicylic acid.

- 11. The method of claim 10 wherein said compound is 1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneamino-phenoxyisobutyric acid].
- 12. The method of claim 10 wherein said compound is 4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid.